

VA GROUND WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE

www.deq.virginia.gov/gwpsc

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on
Tuesday, September 15, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**We will meet in the second floor conference room at DEQ's
downtown office, 629 E Main Street, Richmond VA 23219.**

For more information contact Mary Ann Massie at 804-698-4042 or email
maryann.massie@deq.virginia.gov

Meeting Summary: Tuesday, July 21, 2009

Steering Committee members in attendance:

Scott Kudlas, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division
Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division
Valerie Rourke, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division
Jutta Schneider, Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Division
Micah Raub, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Erin James, Virginia Cooperative Extension/BSE (conf. call)
George Harlow, US Geological Survey
Barry Matthews, Department of Health
Elizabeth Moran, Department of Business Assistance

Our guests were:

Brad White, DEQ Water/OSGWP/GWCP
Doug Phillips, SERCAP (conf. call)
Jill Keihn, Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission (conf. call)
Steve Werner, Draper Aden (conf. call)
Curtis Consolvo, GeoResources
Erich Weisbart, DEQ Waste
Nancy Carr, VRWA
Gayl Fowler, Lyn Neira, Linda Miller, and Jeff Fletcher, SAIF Water Wells Inc.
Anthony Creech, Resource International
Christopher Krambis, Schnabel

Agencies not in attendance:

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Virginia
Department of Mines Minerals and Energy, Virginia Department of General
Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services, and Virginia Department
of Conservation and Recreation.

Brad White, DEQ Ground Water Characterization Program, gave an overview of the GIS well database and characterization efforts in general. The database includes nearly 36,000 data points from historic well records in a variety of databases (USGS, DEQ STORET, VDH SDWIS, DEQ EDWrD/VWUDS, and DMME). For more information visit the Ground Water Characterization Program's web page <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/gwcharacterization/homepage.html>

AGENCY UPDATES:

Department of Environmental Quality

Jutta Schneider, Waste Division, provided the following updates:

New Guidance

Two new guidance documents are being provided in response both to new Federal Food and Drug Administration requirements restricting cattle rendering and to biosecurity concerns within the poultry industry. The guidance provides for on-site composting and on-site burial as alternative disposal methods for routine livestock, poultry and aquaculture mortality. Waste Guidance Memo No. 02-2009: "On-Site Composting of Routine Animal Mortality", dated May 1, 2009, can be found on the web at

<http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewGDoc.cfm?gdid=3968>

Waste Guidance Memo No. 03-2009: "On-Site Burial of Routine Animal Mortality", dated May 1, 2009, can be found on the web at

<http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewGDoc.cfm?gdid=3969>

Regulatory Activities

Solid Waste Management Regulations, 9 VAC 20-80, Amendment 7 is currently in public comment period through 9/4/09, with a public hearing scheduled for 8/3/09. The purpose of Amendment 7 is "to focus on results oriented requirements where feasible and to provide less burdensome requirements for those types of facilities that divert waste from landfills while still protecting the public health, public safety, the environmental and natural resources". Additional information can be found at

<http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/nowinprogress.cfm?boardid=119>

Reorganization

The Department recently created a new management position which will be responsible for both solid and hazardous waste permitting and compliance. This position will supervise the Office of Solid Waste, Office of Waste Technical Support and the Office of Hazardous Waste.

Additionally, as part of this change, the Corrective Action and Hazardous Waste Groundwater functions will be relocated to the Office of Remediation. The risk assessor position currently located in the Office of Waste Technical Support will also be moved under the Risk Assessment function within the Office of Remediation. The effective date of these changes will be after the Director of Waste Permitting and Compliance position has been filled. Transition plans and new organizational charts will be made available in the near future.

Valerie Rourke, DEQ Water Division, Office of Land Application reported progress on a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) sheet for water reclamation and reuse, now in the final stages of development. Once completed, it will be posted on Water Reuse Program Page of the agency's website and made available in hard copy at various public events. Draft implementation guidance for the Water Reclamation and Reuse Regulation has been developed and is currently being reviewed by staff in the DEQ Regional Offices. Valerie is also working with the DHCD on amendments to their USBCs related to indoor plumbing identification of reclaimed water piping.

Proposed amendments to the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) General Permit Regulation for Poultry Waste Management have been published for public comment. The public comment period, which closes 8/21/09, includes three public hearings on 7/29/09, 8/4/09 and 8/6/09. More information regarding the time and place of the hearings is available on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall. The major amendments to this regulation are new requirements for transfer and management of litter off the site of generation.

OLAP with the assistance of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) continues to work on amendments to the VPDES and VPA Permit Regulations and the Fee Regulation related to biosolids land application. There are two more meetings of the TAC scheduled for 8/20/09 and 9/22/09 to discuss the amendments. More information regarding the time and place of the TAC meetings is available on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall. OLAP plans to take the amended regulations to the State Water Control Board in December for approval to publish for public comment.

OLAP is also preparing an exempt final action on the VPDES Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) General Permit Regulation to incorporate the most recent changes to the Federal CAFO rule, effective 12/22/08. The exempt final action will be presented to the State Water Control Board for approval later this year. DEQ has received 78 registration statements for coverage under the VPDES CAFO general permit.

Mary Ann Massie, DEQ Water Division Office of Surface and Ground Water Supply Planning, reported a request for proposals for wellhead implementation projects will close Friday August 28, 2009. This is the fifth year that VDH and DEQ have collaborated to offer funding to municipalities with ground water based systems. The RFP can be found at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/gwpssc/whp.html>

Mary Ann also noted DEQ management continues to work on State budget issues.

Steve Werner with Draper Aden commented on DEQ's Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to extend the Ground Water Management Area throughout the Coastal Plain and the planned revisions to the ground water withdrawal regulations.

Copied from DEQ's Public Event Calendar web page: (<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/calendar/>) Three public meetings on the notice of intent to consider amending the Eastern Virginia Ground Water Management Area Regulations (9 VAC 25-600 et seq.) and the Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations (9 VAC 25-610 et seq.) have been scheduled. The Notice of Intended Regulatory Action for both regulations appears in the Virginia Register of Regulations on July 6, 2009. The comment period begins on July 6, 2009 and ends on August 19, 2009 for both regulations.

Aug 10 at 6 p.m. Location: Northampton County Administration; Former Circuit Court Room; 16404 Court House Road; Eastville, VA 23347.

Aug 13 at 7 p.m. Location: James City County Board of Supervisors Room; 101 C. Mount Bay Road, Bldg C; Williamsburg, VA 23185

Aug 18 at 7 p.m. Location: Spotsylvania County Administration Building; Board of Supervisors Meeting Room; Rt 208 at Spotsylvania Court House; 9104 Courthouse Rd. Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Virginia Tech, Biological Systems Engineering – Virginia Cooperative Extension

Erin James reported twelve volunteers successfully completed the first VA Master Well Owner Network (VAMWON) volunteer training workshop held in Christiansburg at the end of May.

Erin reported two upcoming Virginia Master Well Owner Network volunteer and extension agent training workshops. A VAMWON volunteer workshop will be held August 29, 2009 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Virginia Cooperative Extension Northeast District Office at 2810 N. Parham Road in Richmond. Visit the following URL to learn more about this opportunity.

http://www.wellwater.bse.vt.edu/become_a_mwo.php

A VAMWON in-service training for extension agents will be held at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center at 1 Partnership Circle in Abingdon on October 27-28. Interested agents should contact Erin for more information

(wellwater@vt.edu).

Erin is maintaining a list of VAMWON volunteers and extension agents at:

http://www.wellwater.bse.vt.edu/contact_mwo.php

Department of Health

Barry Matthews reported VDH received 255 applications for funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). 16 projects were awarded funds under the ARRA; one project received a combination of funds from the ARRA and the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRLF); three received funding under the SRLF.

Department of Business Assistance

No updates relative to ground water protection.

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Micah Raub announced Jeff Rogers has accepted the position of Environmental Program Planner in the Office of Pesticide Services.

US Geological Survey

George Harlow announced the availability of *Simulation of Groundwater-Level and Salinity Changes in the Eastern Shore, Virginia* (Scientific Investigations Report 2009-5066), which is the result of cooperation among the USGS Virginia

Water Science Center; the USGS National Research Program; the USGS Office of Groundwater; the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; and the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission.

Groundwater-level and salinity changes have been simulated with a groundwater model developed and calibrated for the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The Eastern Shore is the southern part of the Delmarva Peninsula that is occupied by Accomack and Northampton Counties in Virginia. Groundwater is the sole source of freshwater to the Eastern Shore, and demands for water have been increasing from domestic, industrial, agricultural, and public-supply sectors of the economy. Thus, it is important that the groundwater supply be protected from overextraction and seawater intrusion.

The model was created using the USGS code SEAWAT to simulate both water levels and concentrations of chloride (representing salinity). The model was calibrated using 605 predevelopment and transient water-level observations that are associated predominantly with 20 observation nests of wells sited across the study area. Sampling for groundwater chemistry at these sites revealed that chloride has not increased significantly in the last 20 years. Environmental tracers in the samples also indicated that the water in the surficial aquifer is typically years to decades old, whereas water in the confined aquifers is typically centuries to millennia old. The calibration procedure yielded distributions of hydraulic conductivity and storage coefficients of the aquifers and confining units that are based on 21 pilot points, but vary smoothly across the study area. The estimated values are consistent with other measurements of these properties measured previously on cores and during hydraulic tests at various well fields.

This report can be accessed on the web at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2009/5066/>.

Department of Housing and Community Development

Wyatt Little provided the following update in abstentia:

Governor Timothy M. Kaine today announced \$14,134,490 in federal funding for 22 community development projects through the Virginia Community Development Block Grant (VCDBG) program. The grants, which will fund a variety of projects – from housing revitalization to water and sewer infrastructure, to broadband and economic and downtown revitalization – are expected to benefit 3,790 Virginians, of which 2,899 are low-to-moderate income.

Since 1982, the federally-funded VCDBG program has been administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), and Virginia receives up to \$19million annually for this "small cities" grant program. VCDBG grants are awarded through a competitive process. Most projects benefit low- and moderate-income persons, and many projects are targeted for the prevention or elimination of slums and blighting conditions.

Several projects are noted as either Multi-Year or Letter-of-Intent projects. Multi-year projects are those that will receive a contract allocating funds for one year, and after achieving specific performance targets, will then be eligible for another

year of funding. Letter-of-Intent projects are those which will be awarded after the locality meets specific targets.

Project Title	Locality	Elected Official	Funding Sources	Funds Total
Old Madison Heights Revitalization Project – Phase I Stump Hill Area Multi-Year	Amherst, County of	Vernon L. Wood, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 1,098,449
			State IPR	29,385
			USDA – RD	22,500
			Local	40,175
			TOTAL	\$ 1,190,509
Project Description: The county will address substandard housing and infrastructure conditions in the Stump Hill community, as the first step of the larger Old Madison Heights neighborhood revitalization. The project will include the rehabilitation of eight owner-occupied homes, the substantial reconstruction of one owner-occupied home, the rehabilitation of one rental home, demolition and clearance of three vacant and dilapidated structures, installation of approximately 1,450 linear feet of water line, connection of sanitary sewer to five homes, and roadway and drainage improvements. The project is expected to benefit approximately 42 persons, at least 34 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Simmons Drive Community Improvement Project Multi-Year	Brunswick, County of	Welton Tyler, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 1,102,510
			Local	25,345
			TOTAL	\$ 1,127,855
Project Description: The county will reduce substandard housing conditions and improve infrastructure in the Simmons Drive community. The project will include the rehabilitation of five owner-occupied homes; the substantial reconstruction of one owner-occupied home; the rehabilitation of five renter occupied homes; the demolition and removal of two dilapidated vacant structures; the installation of 1,770 linear feet of water line, 2,620 linear feet of gravity sewer, 2,700 linear feet of one-and-one-half-inch sewer force main, and appurtenances; and the construction of approximately 3,000 centerline feet of residential street. The project is expected to benefit 51 persons, 46 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Haysi to Big A Mountain Water Project, Phase III	Buchanan, County of	James Carroll Branham, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$1,000,000
	Dickenson, County of	Roger Stanley, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	ARC	500,000
			AML	2,361,325
			SWVA Water/WV Fund	170,790
				185,000
			Coalfield Water Development	142,475
			Local PSA	\$ 4,359,590
			TOTAL	
Project Description: The counties will provide for the extension of public water service to priority areas identified in the Coalfields Regional Water Study. Presently households in this area are served by wells and springs that have been shown to poor quality and diminished quantity. Water tests have revealed that many water sources contain unsafe levels of coliform bacteria and other contaminants such as high levels of iron. The project will connect a total of 210 households to safe and adequate source of potable water and is expected to serve 348 persons, 233 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

West Fourth Street Community Improvement Project	Chase City, Town of	Eddie Bratton, Mayor	CDBG	\$ 1,250,990
Multi-Year			Local	6,740
			TOTAL	\$ 1,257,730

Project Description: The town will reduce substandard housing and infrastructure conditions for the West Fourth Street community. The project will include the rehabilitation of nine owner-occupied homes; the substantial reconstruction of five owner-occupied home; the rehabilitation of seven renter occupied homes; the demolition and removal of two dilapidated vacant structures; **the installation of 1,740 linear feet of water line, 1,780 linear feet of eight-inch sewer line, and the installation of culverts and drainage improvements.** The project is expected to benefit 52 persons, all of whom are low-to-moderate income.

Washington Park Community Development Program – Phase IV	Greensville, County of	Peggy R. Wiley, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 973,300
Multi-Year			Private	137,500
			Local	129,700
			TOTAL	\$ 1,240,500

Project Description: The county will complete the next phase of the larger Washington Park neighborhood revitalization. The project will include the rehabilitation of one owner-occupied home, the rehabilitation of five rental homes, the substantial reconstruction of eight owner-occupied homes, the creation of five new low-to-moderate income home owners, **and the installation of approximately 550 linear feet of storm water drainage pipe,** 500 linear feet of curb and gutter, 80 square yards of entrance gutter, 500 linear feet of sidewalk, and at least four additional street lights. The project is expected to benefit at least 40 persons, 33 of whom are low-to-moderate income.

South Street Neighborhood Improvement Project	Henry, County of	Jim Adams, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 1,400,000
Multi-Year			VDEM	313,362
			Weatherization	194,000
			USDA-RD	115,862
			Private	27,400
			Local	118,959
			TOTAL	\$ 2,169,853

Project Description: The county will implement a neighborhood improvement project in the South Street area of the Bassett community. The project will include the rehabilitation of four owner-occupied homes, the rehabilitation of ten renter occupied single-family homes and four multi-family renter occupied units, the substantial reconstruction of three owner-occupied homes, demolition and removal of two dilapidated vacant structures, 5,500 cubic yards of excavation, 1,340 linear feet of ditches, 3,554 square yards of new road construction, and the **replacement of 1,570 linear feet of water line and 2,125 linear feet of sewer line.** The project is expected to benefit 49 persons, 47 of who are low-to-moderate income.

Mary Ball Road Neighborhood Improvement Project Multi-Year	Kilmarnock, Town of	Dr. Curtis H. Smith, Mayor	CDBG	\$ 1,385,455
			State-IPR	119,850
			Weatherization	77,100
			Private	7,500
			Local	951,249
			TOTAL	\$ 2,541,154
Project Description: The town will provide improvements and infrastructure to the Mary Ball Road community. The project will include the rehabilitation of 12 owner-occupied homes, the rehabilitation of six rental homes, the substantial reconstruction of four owner-occupied homes, demolition and clearance of four abandoned, dilapidated structures, and the installation of 5,119 linear feet of eight-inch water line, 307 linear feet of water service line, 26 water meters, 5,478 linear feet of eight-inch gravity sewer line, 5,359 linear feet of four-inch sewer force main, 420 linear feet of sewer service line, 31 sewer connections, and appurtenances. The project will benefit at least 60 persons, 49 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Angel Court Housing Production	King George, County of	Joseph W. Grezieka, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 680,000
Letter of Intent			VHDA loan	735,000
			VHDA grant	220,000
			HOME	500,000
			LIHTC	2,647,000
			Private	512,346
			Local	175,000
			TOTAL	\$ 5,469,346
Project Description: The county will complete infrastructure improvements in support of the development of 24 units of affordable rental housing for low-income and disabled residents of the County. The project will include construction of 975 linear feet of VDOT public access road, two commercial entrances, 650 linear feet of eight-inch water line, 785 linear feet of four-inch sewer force main, and storm water / drainage improvements. The project is expected to benefit 114 persons, all of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Blackwater – Lee County Water Project	Lee, County of	Carl Bailey, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 1,000,000
			Health Dept.	1,069,774
			TOTAL	\$ 2,069,774
Project Description: The county will provide public water service to approximately 90 households in the Blackwater community. The project will include the construction of approximately 40,000 linear feet of eight-inch water line, 25,000 linear feet of six-inch water line, 1,100 linear feet of four-inch water line, 600 linear feet of two-inch water line, 9,900 linear feet of three-quarter-inch service line, a 50,000 gallon water storage tank, and a booster pump station. The project is expected to benefit approximately 200 persons, 125 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Old Woodway Road Extention – Phase II	Lee, County of	Carl Bailey, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 250,000
			Local	107,114
			TOTAL	\$ 357,114
Project Description: The county will provide public water service to the remaining 20 households in the Old Woodway community. The project will include the construction of approximately 8,797 linear feet of eight-inch water line, one pressure reduction station, and appurtenances. The project is expected to benefit approximately 45 persons, 30 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Route 92 Waterline Extension Project	Mecklenburg, County of	Glenn E. Barbour, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDBG	\$ 1,000,000
			Tobacco Commission	1,000,000
				1,250,000
			EDA	700,000
			Local	\$ 3,950,000
			TOTAL	
Project Description: The county will install a water main to connect the Town of Chase City's water distribution system to address concerns with the town's water supply which has repeatedly received violations for water quality problems. The project will include the construction of 54,483 linear feet of twelve-inch water line, 27 gate valves, a booster pump station, related appurtenances, and the replacement of approximately 4,890 linear feet of water line within the Town. The project is expected to benefit 2,169 persons, 1,623 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Dora Highway Neighborhood Revitalization Project Multi-Year	Pulaski, Town of	Jeff Worrell, Mayor	CDBG	\$ 1,400,000
			HOME	319,000
			State – SHOP	75,000
			Weatherization	92,750
			Private	501,000
			Local	401,686
			TOTAL	\$ 2,789,436
Project Description: The town will provide a broad range of improvements to the Dora Highway Neighborhood. The project will include the rehabilitation of ten owner-occupied homes, the substantial reconstruction of owner-occupied homes, the rehabilitation of four rental homes, the acquisition of six lots for the construction of six new homes for sale to first-time low-to-moderate income homebuyers, demolition and clearance of 14 vacant and blighted structures, and the installation of 3,000 linear feet of upgraded and "loop connection" water line , resurfacing of 1,628 linear feet of existing streets, improvements to one intersection and the construction of two cul-de-sacs. The project will benefit 154 persons, 137 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

Middle Creek Water Line Extension Project	Tazewell, County of	David R. Anderson, Chairman, Board of Supervisors	CDGB	\$ 437,500
			SWVA Water/WV Fund	155,283
			Local	25,000
				\$ 617,783
			TOTAL	
Project Description: The county will provide water service from the Town of Cedar Bluff water system to 35 households in the Middle Creek community. The project will include approximately 7,000 linear feet of six-inch water line, 7,000 linear feet of four-inch water line, a pump station, and 35 water meters. The project is expected to benefit 74 persons, 53 of whom are low-to-moderate income.				

There was a follow up question about whether funding under this announcement could support the well replacement program at DHCD. I contacted Wyatt after our meeting and he provided the following:

The Dry Well Replacement Program administered by DHCD is no longer an active program. However, funding under the Virginia CDBG program can be used to address a number of water and sewer related needs. A substantial majority of the Virginia CDBG funding is for competitive grants. Eligible localities must apply for the funding for specific projects that meet the Va. CDBG program criteria, including giving maximum priority to low and moderate income groups. Often localities use CDBG funding in combination with funding awarded from a variety of other programs.

Wyatt also provided an electronic copy of their Block Grant program design manual. If you are interested in obtaining this document please let me know and I will forward it to you.

Wyatt noted the DHCD offices have moved to Main Street Centre, 600 East Main Street, Suite 300. Phone numbers remain the same.

Doug Phillips with Southeast Regional Community Assistance Program noted their work under a federal grant through the National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCSC) assisting small communities with training materials, information, and referral services in the areas of wastewater and drinking water, continues.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, September 15. We will meet in DEQ's second floor training center. We will begin at 9 a.m. and adjourn by 11.